



OTVARC Oscillator

The Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club Newsletter

January 1994

From the President's Desk

By Bill Merwin, N7VZF

Well, here goes. The first column from your new president. Boy, that is a term that I never expected to be associated with my name. I thank all the people who had confidence (or not enough sense) not to write in another person's name for the position. Now, on to the business at hand.

It is still 10 days before the end of the year but 1994 is already in the planning stages. OTVARC is no exception. At this point, my main plans for 1994 include: help promote amateur radio and its many facets to the public; help establish a cohesive liaison with the other public service radio organizations in the metro area; promote an education/testing team; develop a plan to encourage activities that can be enjoyed by the whole family; reactivate the various committees that have laid fallow for a while such as project nights.

This list is not complete but it is a good place to start. Actually, a good place to start is to introduce myself to those of you who haven't had the misfortune to meet me before.

My name is Bill Merwin though to many it had been "Huggy Bear" for many years. No, that is not an 11 meter "handle" but a nickname lovingly given many years ago by the XYL of AE7W when we working together at the sports car races at PIR. Ask Randi about it when you see her next. I digress. I am a native Oregonian, born and raised in the SW Portland / Beaverton area. I am a graduate of Jesuit High and received my education in computer science at PCC and Portland State. As far as my "Ham" experience is concerned, I came by my interest through

Coming up:

Don't Miss the Jan 12 meeting at 7pm! The program will be on the Cycle Oregon communications effort presented by Jim, KB7ADH and Randy, KZ7T. This is the most scenic public service event anyone has ever worked, so be there, as the slides will be great!

Inside This Issue....

- Notes from the Editor
- NY Ham Fights Tower Restrictions
- VE's/Class Teachers sought
- Much, much more!

my father who was a ham from the time I was about 8 until his death when I was 15. I tested in December of 1991 and received my ticket in January of 1992. That doesn't mean I haven't been active in communications from 1963 until then. I have worked in communications off and on in various forms most of that time. I spent a period of time working as a dispatcher for various agencies including fire and rescue and a towing company. I was active in the 11 meter REACT groups in the area when you could actually communicate more than 5 miles without the use of a "Foot Warmer". I have also worked in communications at numerous sports car venues in and around the Pacific Northwest, handling the reporting duties necessary for the safety of the sport. I even had a short stint in the broadcast field for several of the local community radio stations. So you see, I guess I just have a big mouth.

Please see "President..." , page 3

OTVARC Club Contacts

OTVARC Executive Board

President	Bill Merwin	N7VZF	644-1974
Vice Pres	Chris Black	N7MWL	
Secretary	Brad Beach	N7NVC	657-1781
Treasurer	Tim Taylor	N7UCA	292-5430
Trustee	Al Berg	WB7SIC	640-5456
Trustee	Rick Rasch	KB7NTT	641-7419
Trustee	Camber Bybee	KB7RGX	
Trustee	Lynn Hurd	WB7UNU	649-9152
Trustee	Wes Allen	K7WWG	649-3295

Other Club Contacts

ARRL Coordinator	Bob Orr	WF7Q	297-2732
Bunny Hunting	OPEN		
Contesting	OPEN		
DX News	Rich Jones	KG7FS	645-9417
Equipment Valuation	Randy Stimson	KZ7T	297-1175
Equipment Trustee	Al Berg	WB7SIC	640-5456
Emergency Services	Tim Taylor	N7UCA	292-5430
Field Day	Carl Clawson	WS7L	629-5796
Health & Welfare	Pat Griffiths	KA7UFG	649-0837
Member Badges	John Klein	KA7ICV	281-0798
Newsletter Editor	Les Turner	KB7SSE	640-8873
Newsletter Layout	Doug Reeves	N6XHW	833-8504
Newsletter Distribution	Al Berg	WB7SIC	640-5456
Nomination of Officers	Alan Roehl	KO7B	292-5243
Project Night	Open		
Public Relations	Bill Merwin	N7VZF	644-1974
Public Service	Randy Stimson	KZ7T	297-1175
Repeater	Wes Allen	K7WWG	649-3295
RFI & TVI	Dale Mosby	N7PEX	640-0217
Satellites	Red Robert	AA7CP	357-5747
Scholarship	Pat Griffiths	KA7UFG	649-0837
Sea-Pac	Al Berg	WB7SIC	640-5456
	Brad Beach	N7NVC	657-1781
	Jim Schaeffer	KB7ADH	245-2518
	Alan Churchill	AA7CV	639-5660
Technical	Joe Boyd	N7VZS	678-2188
Tower Ordinances	Stan Griffiths	W7NI	649-0837
Trailer	Dee Lynch	KA7NPN	646-4580
Training (Code)	Tom Durell	KG7RD	
Training (Novice/Tech)	Dave Morrison	W7JXU	645-8788
Training (Upgrade)	Joe Boyd	N7VZS	678-2188
VE Testing	Alan Roehl	KO7B	292-5243
VE Test Schedule	John Klein	KA7ICV	281-0798
VHF/UHF	Bill Roth	N7RYW	297-7605

Imagine...

Next month you could be reading
your add here ... along with the rest
of OTVARC ...

Contact Les Turner, KB7SSE for
more information

OTVARC Club Information

Purpose: The Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club, a non-profit corporation, wants to be instrumental in helping the prospective as well as established Amateur to become a proficient communicator in the Amateur Radio Service.

Additionally, the intent is to promote the advancement of Amateur Radio Service through the following five objectives:

1. Education & training of new and licensed Amateurs.
2. Public Service during public events & community activities.
3. Emergency communications during emergencies & disasters.
4. Hobby enhancement through meetings, nets & contests.
5. Social contact with other amateurs & interested persons.

Special Service Club: OTVARC is an ARRL Special Service Club. The ARRL grants us this distinction due to our participation in emergency preparedness exercises, public service events and other service-oriented programs. In addition, continuing educational and training programs are conducted for FCC licenses. OTVARC benefits from you joining the ARRL through OTVARC. To join or renew your membership in the ARRL, contact the treasurer at any regular meeting.

Newsletter: The OTVARC Oscillator is the club newsletter. It is published monthly and is usually mailed on the first of the month. The opinions, views and recommendations of its contributors are not necessarily those of the Club, it's officers, advertisers or the editorial staff.

Correspondence: All correspondence may be sent to OTVARC, PO Box 5132, Aloha, OR 97006-0132.

Advertising: Classified ads are free to all paid up members. Display ads are available to approved commercial interests. To place an ad, mail your camera ready copy to the address above and indicate the size desired. All display ads run for six months at a time from January through June and July through December. All ads must be paid for in advance. Rates for 1994 are as follows:

Full Page	8" X 10"	\$200 for 6 months.
Half Page	8" X 5"	\$125 for 6 months.
Qtr Page	4" X 5"	\$75 for 6 months.
Bus Card	2" X 3"	\$35 for 6 months.

Meetings: We have two meetings per month. The board meeting is on the first Wednesday of each month. All club business is conducted at this meeting. All members are welcome to attend. Contact the President for location and time. The general meeting is on the second Wednesday of each month at the Beaverton Elks Club, 3500 SW 104th Ave (1 block off Canyon road). Meetings start at 7PM. If you would like to come early, you can get a nice meal from the Elks for less than \$6.

Membership: OTVARC is open to anyone who breathes. You do not need to be a licensed radio amateur to join. Dues are as follows: Full member, \$10/yr; Associate member (nonlicensed), \$10/yr; Family members of full member, \$5/yr; Life memberships available - see Treasurer. Only full members and life members may vote on club business and serve as club officers. All memberships expire on the last day of the calendar year. If you would like to join during the year, see the club Treasurer for prorated dues.

How to Join: Simply mail the Member Application and Renewal Form along with your dues to the address above.

FOR SALE OR TRADE OR WANTED

Many ROHN Tower Parts for sale - pieces, bushings, etc. Call Stan Griffiths, W7NI, 649-0837

Misc. for sale:

Henry 2KD Amp - never used	\$1095.00
Personal FAX machine	\$200.00
2M HT - new	\$195.00
440 HT - new	\$195.00

Both of the above have 5W batteries

For more info, call Jack N7CXK at 682-7898

Antennas for sale:

MET 440 circularly polarized sat. antennas 6 element 144 17 element 440. \$50 each. Contact Bill, N7RYQ at 644-3739

Wanted:

Heath "Hot Water" 101 in good/excellent condition. Call Alan, AA7CV, 590-2305

FREE!!!!

FREE QSTs from mid-1989 to 1993 to a good home. Contact John Burgess at 649-9095.

President..

from page 1

I currently hold a Tech Plus license and have been working toward my General and Advanced license in my "Spare Time". I have worked all continents on 10m phone from my mobile (a converted 1979 right-hand drive mail jeep) though I don't have confirmation from all the stations yet. I have worked 49 of the 50 states as well as the District of Columbia. I just need Idaho for my WAS on 10m phone. And all of this has been done during the down-side of the solar cycle. What is it going to be like when the cycle starts back up in 1995.

In April of this year, I was elated when my wife of 23 years passed her Codeless Tech exam. Trudi and I can now share our interest in Public and Emergency Services. She and I have worked numerous events together including the Portland Marathon and Art Quake.

Trudi and I share the duties of raising our three children. Some of you have met April, our fourteen year old daughter. We also have an eleven year old son, Jim and a nine year old daughter, Autumn. Jim and April have been studying for their tickets and Autumn has shown an interest also. Nothing would make me happier than having the whole family licensed but I don't know if my limited budget could stand the strain. That's a lot of radios.

Enough about me. I am looking forward to working with the club this year promoting those topics I mentioned above. I do have plans but it will take all of us. I am not on a personal quest to tilt windmills. I am dedicated to amateur radio and all that it means. Please join me in making OTVARC a strong organization, a fun organization, and an organization equal to or better than any other club in the area. All it will take is time and a little energy to make it grow and bear fruit. And you know how much bears like fruit. I hope to meet you all at the meetings.

Let's make 1994 a re-birthing year.

73,Bill - N7VZF

Making OTVARC Training Meaningful

by Bill Merwin, N7VZF

I remember when several of the members of my boyscout troop wanted to study code for their merit badge. We had a person who invited us over to study code and listen to him communicate with the outside world. I wish that things were different, where you could invite a group of neighbor kids over to experience the thrill of amateur radio communications. Unfortunately, due to the current trend of mistrust of anyone who is interested in helping young members of the community, it is difficult to start a "Study Group" without having eyebrows raised and intentions questioned. It is too bad. I remember in my younger years the thrill of hearing signals from all over emitting from the speaker of the receiver. I also remember sharing that thrill with my friends when we would venture over to one of my father's friends shack.

OTVARC supplies an instructors to PCC for the novice/tech class offered around the community. Why can't we make it more than just a classroom program. Is there a reason that we can't take on the project and increase the reward of the classroom time by augmenting it with "Field Trips" to a ham shack? What about some of the hams in the group who are set up to "Go Portable" drop by the class with their equipment. Do a practical demonstration of what the hobby can be. Go to the class and volunteer to be an Elmer to several of the students. To a person, I would imagine that the hams who are member of OTVARC had a mentor who helped them learn the ropes. How many of us though, only met those people after we had stepped in something that smelled bad or let all the smoke out of our radios? Wouldn't it have been nice for us to have had the opportunity to learn it right in the first place?

Give it some thought. One or two nights a week away from the TV wouldn't hurt any of us. If just 10 people would step up and volunteer, and each took on two students, we could handle more than a full class. Face it. It would take you away from your TV but put you in your shack which is where most of us spend time anyway. This way, we could pursue our hobby and help new potential hams learn at the same time. If you think it is something that you would like to try let us know. Currently, Burt Rooke - KI7JX is acting as the instructor for the PCC class. You can reach Burt by calling: Burt Rooke - KI7JX (503) 241-2891 [home] or by meeting Burt at the next OTVARC meeting.

This is not a new idea. I wish I could say that it was mine. Actually, this practice is being used by several of the other ARC's in the area and have been met with a high level of success.

Along the same line, how about some of you VE's or potential VE's getting together and forming a VEC for OTVARC. That way, we could supply a "Full Service" training session with field trips, hands-on demonstrations and topped off with a testing session. The full package offered by OTVARC. This would not only help start the new hams on the right foot but would be a good recruiting pool of new members.

Burt is writing an article to be published in this issue hopefully. He will be covering more of the same information so bear with us. We both feel it is an important issue that needs to be addressed by the club. Burt is in need though of assistance in coordinating the effort. Give either Burt or me a call and let us know which part of the process holds your interest.

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Long Island Hams Fight Tower Ruling

from Amateur Radio Newsline

Amateur radio operators out on New York's Long Island are seeking national support to fight the local zoning board within the Town of Hempstead. On October 6th the Zoning Board of Appeals denied amateur radio operator Mark Nadel, NK2T the right to maintain his 55 foot radio tower.

The reason for the denial was based on two neighbors had filed complaints about radio frequency interference to their home entertainment equipment. In other words, the town of Hempstead is saying that it is taking on the jurisdiction of the FCC and the townships lawyers add that they have the right to do just that. This, even if it means openly challenging the federal government and its communications control agency, the FCC.

The decision against Nadel is precedent setting and reads in part as follows. We quote:

"The board finds that the proposed and existing height of 55' has had a devastating effect on several of the residents. The transmission of applicants come over the telephone, television and electronic equipment of the neighbors and interfere substantially with those neighbors use of such facilities. The Board has weighed the benefit to the applicant as against the detriment to the neighbors, and finds that the detriment far outweighs any benefit to the applicant." — end quote.

Word is that Hempstead is prepared to spend any amount of money to argue this case in all jurisdictions including the United States Supreme Court. As a result, it now appears as if the only way that Nadel can have this decision overturned is to take it to court himself. He and other hams in Hempstead have been given no other choice than to fight.

In order to help NK2T overcome this unacceptable decision an organization has been

formed know as RADIO. This is an acronym for the Radio Amateur Defense & Information Organization. Its sole purpose is that of helping amateur radio operators in their fights with town zoning problems. Regardless of the final outcome, this will be a precedent setting case. Perhaps the most important legal battle in the history of the United States Amateur Radio Service.

For this reason it is very important to support NK2T in this oncoming battle through the courts. The findings may well determine whether or not you can have a ham transmitter and an antenna, no matter where in the nation you may live. The address for contributions is RADIO, in care of N2FF, Post Office Box 343, Williston Park, New York 11596.

Did You Know??

by Burt, KI7JX

Did you know that one of the first five objectives of OTVARC is the "Education & Training of new Licensed Amateurs" ?

OTVARC, along with P.C.C. sponsors a Novice/Technician class. The class is taught every quarter at Cedar Park Elementary School. Theory and code are both taught during the class. To register, call P.C.C. at 244-6111 x2584 or x2587. The class number is 115601. The class meets on Tuesday evenings from 7:00pm to 9:00pm. Next class is scheduled for 11 Jan 1994. Make sure you tell all the "Wannabees".

We also need help from V.E.'s to "package" this class. We want to offer testing at the end of the class, a few good demos, and an introduction to OTVARC.

We also need a V.E. Coordinator to take charge of the testing, and let the instructor know the date, time, etc. We also need hams to do the real live classroom demonstrations. Call Burt <KI7JX> at 241-2891 for more information. Let's be the best at this!!

From the Editor's Shack

by Les Turner, KB7SSE

Well, here we are. A new bunch of officers, a new editor. WOW! Will my head quit reeling? Where to start. Hmm. I am a relatively recent amateur licensee, as I got my license on March first of 1993. But, I must admit my love for both radios and Amateur radio in particular goes back much farther than I'd like to admit.

I was first introduced to ham radio in 1974 by an amateur named Craig, callsign WA4DMO. He had a 1kw homebrew hf rig, and used a 10 meter modified Motorola trunk luggable fm rig... and had to "whistle up" the repeater since he didn't have a tone board. I must admit, that we have certainly come a long way since then. But the bug got me and I guess that I never really recovered. The radio bug is a persistent malady.

While in Baker City last winter, I saw an ad in the local paper about 1" square saying that the Eastern Oregon Amateur Radio Society <EARS> was sponsoring a free ham class at one of the local churches. So I attended, and when the test date came 6 weeks later, I passed <with much luck I am sure> with a flawless 2 and 3a elements. Then came the HARD part. I had to wait 12 weeks for the coveted KB7SSE to arrive. It came 8 days before the birth of my first daughter, Emily. Baker hams were given a blow by blow account of this happening. <I have since been warned by my loving and patient wife Heather (KB7YFQ) that if I ever pull that stunt again, I will be worm food.>

It is all Bill Merwin's <N7VZF> and Camber Bybee's <KB7RGX> fault that I am your new editor. I hope that I won't be TOO controversial. As far as getting in touch with me, you can either call me at 640-8873 voice, 640-8732 modem on my BBS, or leave it in care of N7VZF@K7IQI. Please write an

article or two.

I look forward to the next year. I hear big plans are in the works. But remember, any club is only as good and as active as it's members. Let's try and spend a little extra time trying to put together some activities and projects to make 1994 a memorable one. I hope to carry some excerpts from QST on what's happening on the FCC and ARRL news front, including fines and penalties for various activities, and if there is anything else newsworthy, I'll find a spot for it. It is my intention to have this particular monthly newsletter a little larger and packed with stuff. I also would like to make a spot for letters to the editor, and another for new/old hams and questions, so that perhaps someone in the club will see the question, and answer it. And in doing so, the whole club now has the answer.

So, I guess I have rambled along enough for now. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions, comments, or gripes.

73, Les Turner, KB7SSE

[Many thanks to Les for getting Newline reports for the newsletter - N6XHW]

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Earl Relnoehl, KE7OA, Manager

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From Around the Dial

Tidbits compiled by the *Oscillator* Staff

The FCC has issued a Notice of Forfeiture for \$10,000 to David Plourde, N1IZR, of Lewiston, ME., according to December's QST. In April of 1992, Plourde was given a Notice of Apparent Liability for \$10,000 for allegedly operating on the Citizen's Band using a non-type-accepted transmitter and a linear amplifier. Given the usual 30 days to respond to the NAL, Plourde had not done so as of October 12, 1993, the date of the Notice of Forfeiture.

And, the price of testing for amateur radio will go up to \$5.75 on January 1st, 1994. That is when the FCC's maximum allowable reimbursement fee goes up from the present amount of \$5.60.

On a completely different note, the few amateurs that corrected this editor on the existence of a **TEN-TEC Argosy II** will be displeased that I actually saw a picture of one. <grin>. Finding that one ranked right up there with snipe hunting!

The 7th ARRL RTTY Roundup begins at 1800 UTC <1000 PST> on January 8th, 1994, and ends at 2400 UTC <1600 PST> on January 9th, 1994. For the rules and particulars, grab a copy of the Dec. issue of QST and look on page 127.

The alleged need for two meter radios in New York City taxis seems to have disappeared as a results of a plan to install cellular phones in may of the city's cabs. According to Nynex, Mobile Communications, one of the city's cellular suppliers, some two hundred medallion taxi cabs have embarked on a three month pilot program to test the feasibility of having cellular pay-phones in the rider compartments of these vehicles. Passengers are able to use these cel-tels for regular phone calls, and taxi drivers have a special push-button that allows instant access to police through the city's 911 emergency access number.

As reported a few months ago, a small number of New York City taxi drivers had petitioned the Taxi and Limousine Commission to have two meter radios installed in every cab. The commission turned the drivers down.

1994 OTVARC MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND RENEWAL FORM

Name _____ Call _____
Address _____ Class _____
City, State, Zip _____ Home Phone _____

You may combine your ARRL membership and OTVARC membership. We handle all the details and it makes money for the club. Thanks.

OTVARC New Membership..... \$12/yr.

OTVARC Renewal..... 10/yr

OTVARC Associate..... 10/yr.

Family Member..... 5/yr

Life Membership..... See Treasurer.

ARRL Membership..... 30/yr.

ARRL (65 & older)..... 24/yr.

ARRL Family Member..... 12/yr.

OTVARC Total \$ _____

ARRL Total _____

Grand Total _____

Date Paid _____

Check Number _____

Mail to: OTVARC P.O. Box 5132 Aloha, OR 97006-0132

FEBRUARY 1994 TRAVELERS OUTING INFORMATION

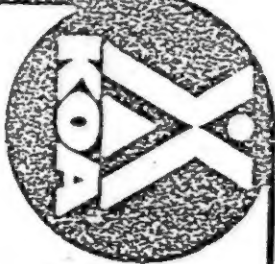
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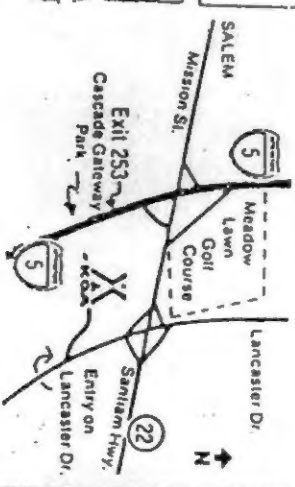
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APRIL 15-17 - NETARTS DALE, BETTY PLANER

MAY 20-22 - CAPE LOOKOUT JOHN BURGESS

JUNE 17-19 - FORT CANBY, WA AL, MARY BERG

JULY 15-17 - SKAMOKAWA ROGER, MARVEL NOYES

AUGUST 19-21 - TBA GENO BUELL

SEPTEMBER 16-18 - TBA JERRY, BOBBI MOHR

OCTOBER 14-16 - TBA DARWIN, VERNA MAY DURR

NOVEMBER 18-20 - HOLIDAY DINNER DEPOE BAY

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON ANY OUTING OR TO SIGN UP
FOR ANY OPEN MONTH PLEASE CONTACT WAGONMASTERS

TOM (KA7NAM) OR BARB (KA7WTF) BAILEY @ 503-538-2266



OTVARC TRAVELERS

- **EASY ACCESS FROM INTERSTATE FIVE OR HIGHWAY 99W:** Take Exit 260A, the Salem Parkway route from I-5 South; Mission or Market Street exits from I-5 North.

● ORRC ARRL ● Packet Radio Group Meetings

Escape the Winter Doldrums

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TO MC MINNVILLE

TO MONMOUTH

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One preregistered assistant per handicapped ham may accompany to offer helping hand.

N

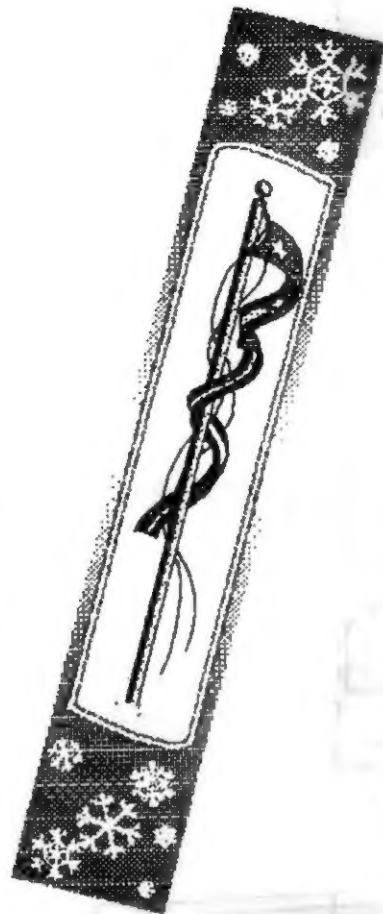
02' 85'

- **FOOD:** Soft Drinks, Coffee, Fresh Pastries, Hamburgers & Chips, Chili & French Bread.
- **OVERNIGHTERS:** Parking for self-contained RV's on the fairgrounds at \$8.00 per night. Contact the Polk County Fairgrounds (503-623-3048) for details.

OTVARC TRAVELERS JANUARY 14,15,16, 1994 OUTING.

MULKEYS RV PARK
3.5 MILES WEST OF McMINNVILLE
ON HWY 18.

THOSE GOING ON THURSDAY MAKE YOUR OWN
RESERVATIONS 472-2475.
CONTACT AL BERG IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND 640-5456.



Fork It Over

If you think your last traffic ticket was painful, wait until you see what your friends at the FCC have cooked up for you. The commission's new fine schedule includes a \$625 penalty for any "assorted minor violations," and a \$1,250 fine for failure to identify your station. Unauthorized use of equipment will cost you \$5,000.

Running excessive power, failing to respond to an FCC communication, or operating on an unauthorized frequency will set you back \$10,000 under the new fine schedule. Transmitting indecent material or words will cost you \$12,500, causing malicious interference to another ham is set at \$17,500, and failing to permit an FCC station inspection carries an \$18,500 price tag.

If you really want to help reduce the national debt, just get caught sending out a false SOS. Illegal misuse of distress communications like that will cost you \$20,000 for each transmission! The FCC has the authority to adjust these fines, but these base amounts are recommended for first-time offenders. *TNX Newsline & Westlink Report*, No. 661, November 12, 1993.

Let's Talk Ham Radio

A Phoenix-based radio talk show called "Ham Radio & More" has gone national after 2-1/2 years of success on station KFNN. The show began broadcasting nationally over more than 80 Talk America Network affiliate stations in late November. The weekly program is hosted by Len Winkler KB7LPW, and features special guests, give-aways, listener call-ins, and DX news.

"Ham Radio & More" can be picked up in any market by a local talk station. You can suggest your favorite station carry the program by having them contact the Talk America Network at (508) 460-0588. The show can also be picked up on Satcom C-5, Transponder 19, 6.0 audio and Galaxy 2, Transponder 3, Channel 55.4. The show is designed to increase the public's awareness of ham radio and thus help the hobby to grow. It includes discussions of all aspects of hamming, and is not limited to technical topics. Listen for it on Sundays at 6 p.m. EST.